

# Becket Keys Church of England School

19<sup>th</sup> September 2025

#### YEAR 9 TRIP TO CHINA

Mr Scott-Evans writes.....

# Parents Always Welcome: Join Us for Worship and Prayer

At Becket Keys Church of England School, our Christian foundation is central to everything we do. As a praying Eucharistic community, we are committed to nurturing the spiritual life of our students, staff, and families. We warmly invite parents and carers to join us in worship and prayer, sharing in the rhythm of our school's spiritual journey.

Our school Bible verse, John 15:16–17, reminds us of our calling:

"You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in

my name the Father will give you. This is my command: Love each other."

This verse inspires our community to live out our faith through love, service, and prayer. We believe that gathering together in worship strengthens our bonds and helps us grow in faith.

# Friday Eucharists – 1:00pm in the John Wraw Chapel

Each Friday, we celebrate the Eucharist at 1:00pm in the John Wraw Chapel. This sacred time of communion is at the heart of our school's spiritual life. Parents and carers are warmly encouraged to attend. Please report to Main Reception on arrival, and a member of staff will guide you to the chapel.

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Over the coming weeks, our Year 7 students will be attending these services on a rota basis. It's a wonderful opportunity to worship alongside students, staff, and other members of our community.

Year 7 Eucharist Schedule:

- Friday 19th September –
   7AC
- Friday 26th September –
   INSET Day (no Eucharist)
- Friday 3rd October 7FS
- Friday 10th October 7PP
- Friday 17th October 7WW and 7HS
- Friday 24th October All Saints' Holiday
- Friday 7th November 7EW
- Friday 14th November 7AC

- Friday 21st November 7FS
- Friday 28th November 7PP
- Friday 5th December 7WW and 7HS
- Friday 12th December –
   7EW

#### Wednesday Morning Community Prayer – 8:45am

We also hold a weekly
Community Prayer Meeting every
Wednesday morning at 8:45am.
This is a simple and peaceful time
of prayer, reflection, and
fellowship. Parents, carers, and
members of the local community
are always welcome to join us.
I am always present, along with
other staff, parents, and friends
of the school. It's a lovely way to

start the day, connect with others, and lift our hearts in prayer.

Warm regards

Mr Scott-Evans Headteacher

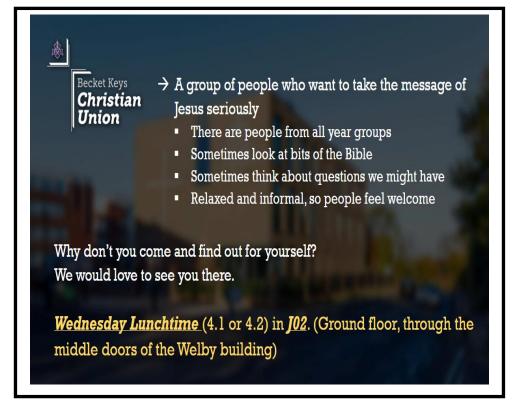




We are pleased to announce that the Parent & School Community Prayer Group hosted by our Headteacher Mr Scott-Evans will be every Wednesday during term time at 8.45am.

This is a short meeting where we pray together for local and national events and for any intentions of those in our school family. All are welcome.

If you have any prayer intentions, please send them into the school via the office email: office@becketkeys.org



#### **Drama Department**

Year 13 drama students had their NEA practical performance this week to an invited audience. They were required to craft a piece of theatre in the style of Stephen Berkoff.

It was an excellent performace from some of our talented students and they received some great feedback from some of the audience members.

I had the honour of watching the Year 13 A-level drama performance and it was nothing but an absolute masterpiece, taking the audience on an emotional journey through fear, confusion, and laughter. As an A-level fine artist, it was a delight to see how different creative forms can tackle such profound and controversial topics.

The play skillfully explored themes of greed, guiding the audience through a narrative that touched on the events of Boris Johnson and the COVID pandemic, the growing autonomy of AI, and the dark side of Hollywood.

A huge congratulations to the entire cast and crew. Your hard work and dedication truly paid off, resulting in a phenomenal show. A special thank you to Mrs. Barr and Mrs. Palmer for providing our actors

Anna-Kaye Fullerton Head Girl Year 13







I really enjoyed watching the year 13 A-level Drama performances. I thought their movement and soundscapes were impressive. I will look forward to doing something similar myself next year. Well done Year 13.

Oliver Atkinson Year 12



# Year 9 - Trip to China

This July, our Year 9 Mandarin Excellence Programme (MEP) students had the incredible opportunity to visit Beijing Language and Culture University—one of China's most prestigious institutions for teaching Chinese as a foreign language.

Each morning, students took part in intensive, immersive Mandarin lessons, fully surrounded by the language and guided by experienced native-speaking teacher. Their progress was remarkable—not only in vocabulary and grammar, but also in confidence and fluency. By the end of the programme, many were comfortably navigating real-life conversations in Mandarin.



Afternoons were filled with cultural activities that brought China's rich traditions to life. Students joined in square dancing, experienced traditional Chinese sports and games through a fun-filled sports carnival and even had the chance to visit a local Chinese secondary school, gaining a deeper understanding of school life in China.



Our cultural exploration didn't stop there. We challenged ourselves to climb the Great Wall of China—a journey that brought the ancient proverb "不到长城非

好汉"("One who has never been to the Great Wall is not a true hero") to life. I'm proud to say: we are all heroes now.

What truly stood out, beyond the sightseeing and study, was the spirit of the students. They embraced every challenge, every difference, and every moment with curiosity and enthusiasm. By the end of the trip, not only had they made lasting memories, but they had also forged deeper connections with the language and culture of China.



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Perhaps most impressively, the impact of the trip has continued long after our return. From the very first week of the new term, it was clear: students came back with renewed motivation and an even stronger work ethic. They brought back not only souvenirs, but also a sense of dedication and perseverance—values deeply rooted in Chinese learning culture.

We are immensely proud of what our students have achieved, and even more excited to see how they continue to grow on their Mandarin journey.

#### Mrs Zhang Head of Mandarin

I had a great time in China, not only because of the things I experienced but the better friendships I have made. The food in China was immaculate especially at the hotel. We all had a chance to visit some of the most famous places in China like Great

Wall of China and walking through the Forbidden City, it really was an unforgettable experience. When we were inside the university, I felt very welcomed by the local students. I learnt a lot of new and different things in China which was great. It was also nice to see all the historical artifacts in China. It is an experience I will never forget.

#### Helet Van Der Lith



China was the most exciting and awesome trip! First, the flight was long but the movies kept me occupied. From the moment I stepped off the plane I realised I was finally in China and couldn't wait for the fun memories and exciting day trips! When we were on our way to the hotel every sign and everything was in Chinese which was very confusing but also interesting.

Once we had settled in the hotel the next day we arrived at the university. The teacher was very kind and helpful. After finishing our lessons we were introduced to the culture and food. The food was very flavourful and delicious.

Some examples of the food we tried were stuffed pork/beef buns (at breakfast), noodles, a lot of rice, sweet and sour pork, fresh fruit and duck.

The highlight of my trip was climbing the Great Wall of China! I was left in awe, after standing on history. It was so wonderful to look ahead and see the mountains in the distance and to look back to see the small and unique villages. I also enjoyed the haggling and got some pretty good prices. We also went to the Forbidden City, and it was really something unique to see, but I would for sure get lost in the temples!

Overall, China was an unforgettable experience and a trip of a lifetime. I would gladly go back to visit China again!

#### **Christian Ludwig**



On the 2nd of July 2025, we were on a plane to China. There was a lot of jet lag, but we slept through it. First, we went to Beijing language and Culture university, and we studied Chinese there. There was a buffet filled with Chinese food but some of it wasn't to my taste. The tables were very cool as they were spinning tables. Then, we went to some convenience stores to buy fruit and bubble tea. We visited the school for about a week, and we did traditional Chinese activities.

We also got a tourist guide to take us to climb the Great wall, and we took some photos there. On another day we went to the forbidden city, which was very large and pretty. We also ate Beijing duck lots of times during the visit. Then we went to street market and shopping complexes where we could buy gifts and souvenirs and more food, because the food is delicious!

At the end of the visit, we came back on the plane and ate some very dull airplane food. We were very tired and slept the next day

#### Bhavana Chatti

I thought China was amazing, the markets had delicious food and the activities in the universities were always fun. The hotel was clean and had decent sized rooms, the breakfast in the hotel was very nice and the lessons in the university were very interesting as I learnt a lot and had fun at the same time. Even though the food at the university wasn't to my taste, the prices were cheap at the convenience store.

The excursion trips were the best days such as the Great Wall of China and the Forbidden city because it was a once in a lifetime experience as I am not likely to go again, the lunch and dinner at the restaurants were delicious every time. In my opinion China was one of the best school trips and I enjoyed it a lot.

#### **Ciaran Hendry**



























	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
8:00am			Theory Club		
Lunchtime 1	Year 9 Band Room Year 8 Band	Year 12 Band Room			
Lunchtime 2	Year 10 GCSE Band Room	Year 10 GCSE Band Room			
3:15pm- 4:15pm	Orchestra	BK Choir	Stage Band	Upper Voices Brass Ensemble	Rock Factory

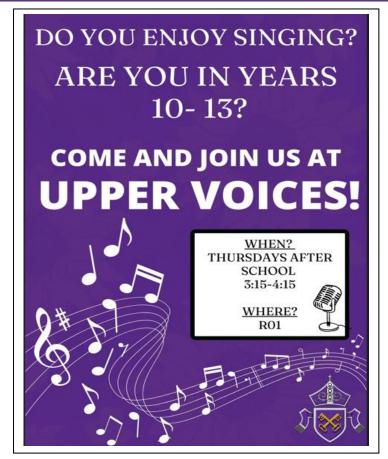
Note: Orchestra – open to all year groups who play and orchestral instrument

BK Choir -Year 7, 8 and 9 singers

Upper Voices – Year 10,11,12,13 singers

Stage Band – woodwind, brass and rhythm section players

Rock Factory – open to all guitars, bass, drummers and vocalists



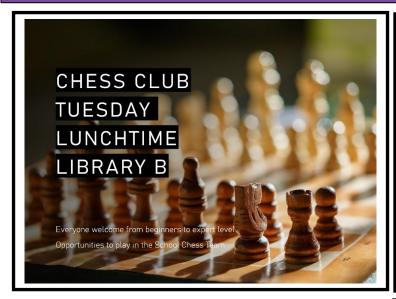


The extra-curricular clubs begin next week, we encourage all students to join at least one club and there is something for everyone, whatever your interests.

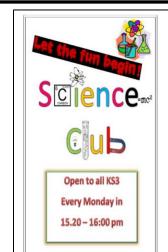
Music, sports, boardgames, Warhammer, food, drama, crafts, books and subject related clubs are all available.

View the full list here: **Becket Keys** 

#### **Extra-Curricular Clubs**







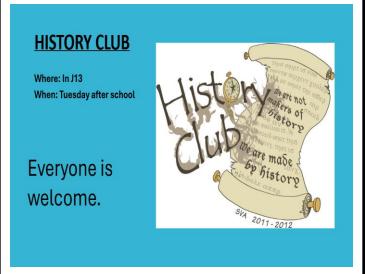
Come along and carry out projects and practicals that we don't do during science lessons!

Spaces are limited, so come along to avoid missing out.

Join Mr Achillea in W21.









# Is Your Child Eligible for Free School Meals?

Your son/daughter may be eligible for **free school meals** if **you receive any of the following benefits**:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Child Tax Credit (not Working Tax Credit), with an annual income below £16,190
- Pension Guarantee Credit
- Employment and Support Allowance, income related
- Support under part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act, 1999
- Working Tax Credit run-on, paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit, with a household income of £7,400 or less (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

#### **How to Apply**

If you believe you qualify, you need to apply yourself using the link below provided by Essex County Council:

<u>Free school meals: Apply for free school meals | Essex</u> <u>County Council</u>



## Would you like a locker?

If you would like a locker then please go to reception to arrange to hire one.

Lockers need to be re-hired each year. You therefore cannot simply use the locker you had last term.

If you have been given a locker, please make sure you are using the correct one.

Thank you, Reception.

### **Becket Keys Catering**

We are sorry to report that the dishwasher in the school kitchen has still not been fixed. However, we hope it will be repaired next week so that we can move back to proper plates and cutlery again!

# Charity Event – Cultural Day



#### Meet Some New Staff

# Welcone



### Mrs Heron PE Teacher

I began my PE teaching career in 2009 at Brentwood Ursuline, working as part of a busy department in a school with a successful extra-curricular programme at county/national levels. Outside of PE I held additional responsibilities including Deputy Child Protection Officer and Head of House. After five years working at Brentwood Ursuline I wanted a new challenge and so took on a leadership role as Head of Department at Loxford School, a large school in Ilford with over 3000 students.

I have recently taken some time out of teaching to build and raise

my young family. With three kids and an elderly labrador life is hectic but full of laughs and never a dull moment!

Outside of work I have always loved keeping fit and healthy through sport, playing netball competitively and recently receiving a charity place to undertake my first Marathon in London next year — look out for a sponsorship request coming soon! I have completed 3 half marathons and one more coming up next month, but the thought of running double that distance is very daunting!

I am excited to be part of the dynamic and successful PE team at Becket Keys and looking forward to contributing to the department's continued success.





Remember that all correspondence to the school must come through the school office email:

office@becketkeys.org

Your message will be forwarded to the member of staff concerned.

You can also send a message via the contact page on the website:

https://www.becketkeys.org/cont act-staff

You can also now reply directly to any message you receive from the school via Bromcom, just hit the reply button and it will go to the office.

Students can contact their teachers via Satchel One if they have any queries regarding their lessons.

Please do not email staff directly as any message received in this way will not receive a response.

Many thanks for your understanding.

#### **Student Achievement**

# London Philharmonic Orchestra

# Zak Amachree Year 13

The London Philharmonic
Orchestra have an annual annual
orchestral experience
programme, supporting talented
players aged 15-19 from
backgrounds currently underrepresented in professional UK
orchestras.

The LPO believe that talent is indiscriminate, yet people from some backgrounds and communities continue to be under-represented in the orchestral sector. The LPO are actively working to promote diversity and inclusivity in the classical music industry, leading eventually to a sector that is more reflective of the wider population.

This year we are delighted to announce that one of our Year 13 Becket Keys students, Zak Amachree has been awarded a place on this prestigious programme.

https://lpo.org.uk/project/lpojunior-artists/

https://www.facebook.com/share/p/17a8Jus2ku/

What's involved?

As an LPO Junior Artist Zak will benefit from:

- One-to-one instrumental sessions with a player mentor from the LPO
- Insight sessions about the music profession with inspiring guests
- Professional skills building workshops
- Mock audition experience
- Ensemble performance opportunities
- Behind-the-scenes work experience with the LPO team
- Opportunities to inspire younger musicians through <u>LPO Junior</u> <u>Artists:</u> <u>Overture</u> events

The LPO Junior Artists
Programme 2025/26 is
generously funded by the
Margaret Killbery Foundation,
TIOC Foundation and the UK
Friends of the Felix
Mendelssohn Bartholdy
Foundation.

LPO are excited to welcome a fantastic group of young musicians!

Zak's first concert will be on Saturday 27th September at Royal Festival Hall, this is a preconcert for the youth players to showcase their talents.

# **LPO Junior Artists**



#### Our School Library (Lib A)

- · Your school library is open:
  - Tuesday Before School 8-8.25
  - Thursday Lunch (4.1) 11.50-12.15
  - Thursday Lunch (4.2) 12.40-1.05
- If Miss White is in the library after school, you can come and use it then as well.
- The library is open for you to:
  - · Come and borrow or return books,
  - · Get help on finding a book you might enjoy reading
  - · Sit and read,
  - · Discuss books with other students.



Miss White is looking for a team of students who would like to support with the school library.

If you think this is something you would be interested in, please see Miss White in LibA on Thursday lunchtime (either first or second).



#### **Late Gate**

Early is on time,
On time is late,
And late is unacceptable!

At Becket Keys, we look to ensure that we are preparing students for life beyond school. We encourage students to attend school regularly and on time.

Remember that the school gate closes at **8.25am**. This allows students enough time to be at their first lesson on time. Period 1 begins at 8.30am.

Brentwood can be tough to negotiate during rush hour, so we encourage students and parents to contact the school in the case of *genuine* lateness, such as delayed public transport.

Parents can call the main school line 01277 286600 or use the "Studybugs" app.

We thank you for your support.





## Book of the Month -September



Not all monsters come out at night

In a creaky old house on a small, damp island, someone – or something – is waiting...

A grieving family. A decaying house. A babysitter with a monstrous secret. Nothing on Gloam Island is quite what it seems...

Gwen's used to looking after her younger siblings – so when they move to their grandmother's old house after their mother's death, she's confident that they don't need Esme Laverne, the beautiful new babysitter with the hungry eyes and sharp teeth. But if Gwen wants Esme gone, she'll have to handle it herself.

As Esme's powers slowly reveal themselves, the children must face their own fears to have any hope of banishing the monstrous intruder ...

Because as everyone knows, it's impossible to be brave unless you're already afraid.

A spine-chilling story for fans of Stranger Things and A Monster Calls.

Remember that the Book of the Month is available to borrow from the school library.



## School Bags

- Year 7 and 8 must use the school bags purchased from SmartyPants.
- Year 9 and above Rucksack and/or messenger bag: Plain black - no commercial logos bigger than 7cm width; prefer Becket Keys logo.
- Sports Bag: Becket Keys logo bag available from SmartyPants.



#### School Shoes

- Boys Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces. No trainers or boots, no white or coloured laces. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No sandals.
- Girls Traditional flat, black sensible leather shoes – lace up shoes to have black laces, no trainers or boots. Lace up shoes preferable to Velcro. No kitten heels, sandals, platform shoes, ballet pumps, white or coloured laces.





Please make sure that **EVERY** item of uniform, PE Kit and equipment is named. There are over a thousand students at the school all wearing the same uniform.

There are many items that we are unable to return as we do not know to whom they belong.

Lost Property can be collected from Reception.





If you wish to play football on the Astroturf at lunchtime you will need to bring in your trainers. The surface has been recently replaced and so only trainers are allowed on there and no food is to be consumed. Students are not permitted to play in their socks.

## **Sports News**

# PE Extra Curricular - Sept to Oct

Day	Lunchtime (12:40-1:20)	After-School (3:20-4:20)	
Monday	TUP Badminton	Year 9 Rugby	
Tuesday	TUP Futsal	All Years' Mixed Recreational Football Year 7 Netball Year 9 Boys' Basketball	
Wednesday	Year 7 Invite Only Netball GCSE Theory Intervention	Year 10 & 11 Rugby Year 8,9,10&11 Netball	
Thursday	TUP Basketball	Year 7&8 Rugby	
Friday		All Years' Running Club	



#### Keys:

- Astro
- Sports hall
- Main Hall
- Drama Hall
- Field

## Year 11 Girls' Netball

The team had strong first and second quarter, the third and fourth quarter however could have been improved but the team agreed that we will learn from our mistakes and come back stronger on Monday when we will be playing in a rally.

Overall, St Martins was an enjoyable team to play against. The final score was 30-12 to St Martins.

The following students were playing in this match:

Madison Moon Scarlett Sawkins Imogen Hutton Isabella Hutton Isabella Collins Kaylin Nachwa Moyin Oluboya

Well done to the player of the match Isabella Collins, she put great effort into the game and was very encouraging to everyone!





#### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

OPEN EVENT FOR PROSPECTIVE
YEAR 7 STUDENTS
THURSDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

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INSET DAYS
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
FRIDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2025
FRIDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025

ALL SAINTS' HOLIDAY
YEAR 11 INTERVENTIONS
MONDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER –
FRIDAY 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2025

SIXTH FORM OPEN EVENT
WEDNESDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025

LAST DAY OF TERM

STUDENT HALF DAY

THURSDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY
FRIDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 –
FRIDAY 2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2026

INSET DAY
(NO STUDENTS IN SCHOOL)
MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2026

# Becket Keys Church of England School

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www.becketkeys.org office@becketkeys.org finance@becketkeys.org

X:

- @BecketKeys
- @MrScottEvans
- @BecketKeys6th
- @BecketKeysMusic
- @BecketKeysPE
- @BecketKeysArt
- @BecketKeysSci
- @BecketKeysDT
- @BecketKeysExams
- @BecketKeysTrips

Facebook: Becket Keys Church School